to meet the challenge of multinational corporations;

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) A Disinvestment Commission has been set up which will advise the Govternment. On various aspects of disinvestment of PSU shares inclusive of the mode of disinvestment.

(b) Evolving strategies for restructuring is a continous process.

Declaration of Kanpur Dehat as Industrially Backward District

2777. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: DR. RANBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kanpur Dehat of Uttar Pradesh has been declared as industrially backward district;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to set up some industrial units or ask State Government to set up certain industrial units to remove backwardness of the district;

(d) if so. the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (e) There is no scheme at present with the Government of India, Ministry of Industry under which a district is declared backward. Industrial development is primarily the responsibility of the State Government and the Central Government only supports and supplements their efforts.

Patent's (Amendment) Bill

2778. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "Nav Bharat Times" dated 11th August, 1996, under the caption of "Patents Kannon Main Aavashyak Sanshodhan Ki Salah";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) As a signatory to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement, India has certain obligations. The WTO Agreement, *inter-alia*, contains an agreement on Trade Related Aspect of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) in respect of provisions concering Intellectual Property Rights. Apart from the obligations which arose from January 1, 1995, India has time till January 1, 2000 to implement its obligations under the TRIPs Agreement.

Indepedent Quality control Laboratories

2789. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any independent quality control laboratory (not under concerned administration) for testing food sampes; and

(b) if so, the details of the tests at random samples taken, number of samples, etc. during the last three years and action taken against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Food Laboratories functioning under the States/Local Bodies undertake analysis of samples of food articles lifted by Food Inspectors of the concerned States under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. These Laboratories also carry out analysis of samples of food articles sent by a purchaser or recognised consumer association.